

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/IB2004/051713

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G06F3/033

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, IBM-TDB

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6 597 348 B1 (YAMAZAKI SHUNPEI ET AL) 22 July 2003 (2003-07-22) figure 1 figures 5A,5B figures 7A,7B,7C column 2, line 37 - column 3, line 1 column 5, line 52 - column 9, line 41	1,3,6,7, 10-13
A	US 4 668 861 A (WHITE ET AL) 26 May 1987 (1987-05-26) column 1, line 66 - column 2, line 52 column 4, line 6 - column 5, line 40 figure 1 ----- -/--	1,3,12, 13

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

30 May 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

06/06/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Pirou, Y.N.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/IB2004/051713

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	GB 2 074 428 A (WE) 28 October 1981 (1981-10-28) cited in the application page 1, line 66 - line 88 page 2, line 33 - line 93 page 4, line 29 - line 110 figures 2,3 figures 8,9 -----	1

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/IB2004/051713

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6597348	B1	22-07-2003	JP 2000259347 A	22-09-2000
US 4668861	A	26-05-1987	CA 1246182 A1	06-12-1988
			EP 0204824 A1	17-12-1986
			WO 8603618 A1	19-06-1986
GB 2074428	A	28-10-1981	US 4346376 A	24-08-1982
			AU 541152 B2	20-12-1984
			AU 6947081 A	22-10-1981
			BE 888444 A1	31-07-1981
			CA 1185383 A1	09-04-1985
			DE 3114354 A1	24-06-1982
			ES 8205078 A1	01-09-1982
			FR 2480967 A1	23-10-1981
			HK 69884 A	14-09-1984
			IT 1137373 B	10-09-1986
			JP 57071039 A	01-05-1982
			KR 8402277 B1	14-12-1984
			NL 8101878 A	16-11-1981
			SE 441870 B	11-11-1985
			SE 8102252 A	17-10-1981
			SG 33184 G	08-02-1985
			US 4484179 A	20-11-1984
			CA 1189206 A1	18-06-1985